



St John The Evangelist

Berry Lane, Rickmansworth, WD3 7HG
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millend/>



Our Lady Help of Christians

5 Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1HU
<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth>



St John Fisher

Hill Cottage, Shire Lane, Chorleywood, WD3 5NH
<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/chorleywood>

Livestreaming: <https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth>

ENCOUNTERING JESUS, SERVING OTHERS

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Parish Priest:

Fr Andrew Gallagher
andrewgallagher@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest:

Fr Damian Ryan
damianryan@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest
pga.forrest@btinternet.com

Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts
anne@themessagemachine.com

Mill End

Geraldine Page
geraldine.page21@gmail.com

Address for all correspondence:
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth
WD3 1HU
Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie 01895 672572
rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747
millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Chorleywood Parish

Peter Mackie 07802 229337
chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:
rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry
Leadership Team:
rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - 31st JULY 2022

Time for a rest!

This newsletter covers the whole month of August, to allow for a bit of a rest for those who communicate our news each week, and recognising that many people across our parishes will be away during this time. I hope that during this month everyone will manage to find some time to slow down, to be refreshed and renewed in mind, body and spirit.

In this season of summer and holidays perhaps this is an important time to focus on an important, but far too frequently forgotten teaching of the Church. The importance of rest.

In the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church there is a section dedicated to 'The dignity of work' and under this a sub-heading 'Rest from work'. This begins:

'Rest from work is a right. As God "rested on the seventh day from all the work which he had done" (Gen 2:2), so too men and women, created in his image, are to enjoy sufficient rest and free time that will allow them to tend to their family, cultural, social and religious life.' (284)

Primarily this points to the sanctity of the Sabbath as a day from resting from work, but it is not exclusive of this. We live in a society where work is seen as a central part of our lives – much of our focus each day is on our work – it is seen as something we must do above everything else. But perhaps here we need to look at the origins of the word 'work' itself. In the ancient world work was a form of 'non-leisure'. In Greek, the word for leisure is *schole*, and the word for business, *ascholia*, which is the negative of *schole*. The same is true in Latin. The word for rest or leisure is *otium*. Its negative-*negotium* means business or work.

In this summer season, as things generally get quieter, let us see rest and leisure as a positive thing in our relationship with God and with each other. Let us remember the need to follow the example of God himself, and stop, and spend time looking around us, so that we can truly see what is important and have the energy to follow his will in the years ahead.

Loving Father, during this time of rest and relaxation,
please repair in me what is weary or broken
and revive my drooping spirit.

Let this holiday be a graced time of recollection and rejuvenation,
of deeper self-awareness and eager self-giving.

May it be an occasion of refreshment and reinvigoration
– a time to reclaim my friendship with Jesus Christ,
who is our Lord now and forever.
Amen.

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 31ST JULY	10.00am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Tea and Coffee after Mass Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 2ND AUGUST	10.00am	Rosary after Mass	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 4TH AUGUST	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 6TH AUGUST	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
SUN 7TH AUGUST	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Coffee after Mass - Hall Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 30 TH JULY	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6.00pm Holy Souls	
SUNDAY 31 ST JULY <i>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parishes 11am Bill Graham RIP 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am Lyn Armstrong (Ints.)	9am Malcolm Stacey RIP
MONDAY 1ST AUGUST <i>St ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes		
TUESDAY 2 ND AUGUST	9.30am Philomena & Frank Roche RIP		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 3 RD AUGUST	9.30am Harry D'Cruz RIP	9.30am Alan Moss RIP	
THU 4TH AUGUST <i>St JOHN VIANNEY, PRIEST</i>	11.00am Funeral - Douglas Keen RIP		
FRIDAY 5 TH AUGUST	9.30am Fr David Wilson RIP		
SAT 6TH AUGUST <i>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD</i>	9.30am Declan Quinn RIP (Anniv.)	6.00pm Ola Budzynska RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 7 TH AUGUST <i>NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Anne Stark RIP (Anniv.) 11am Wilson Netto RIP 6pm John Thomson RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am Sue Davies RIP
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for Raine Amiee Dersnah RIP (Blessed Sacrament) and Malcolm Stacey RIP (Our Lady's)	This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for John Daly RIP & Veronica Ealey RIP (Blessed Sacrament) and Malcolm Stacey RIP (Our Lady's)	This week our Sanctuary Lamp burns for Malcolm Stacey RIP (Blessed Sacrament)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: Kathleen Collins, Neville Mathews, Agnes Harper, Ginny Goodgol, Maria Wallis, Heather Kean, John Caneparo, Henry Cutting, Nalene Nixon, Pam Bell, Maureen Douglas, Michael Gaukroger, Molly Gray, Leslie Edwards and Pauline Williams

St John the Evangelist: Rita Murray, Alfredo Rock, Paul O'Connor and Antoinette Moss.

St John Fisher: Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, Pete Murray, Steve Kibbey, Matthew Leone, Jean-Pierre Roche, Angela Hoy, Pat Finucane, Colin Dowling, Kitty Finucane, Anne Trenchard, Paul Kennett, Ann Penn, Paddy Goble, Pam Fitzpatrick and Julian Harris

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

FR DAMIAN'S LEAVING MASS

Will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 31st August at Our Lady's Church Field (weather permitting!). The Mass will be followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. This is an event for all three of our parishes and we hope as many people as are able to will come and give thanks to God for Fr Damian's 5 years service to our community. We will need assistance with moving chairs and other items onto the field on that afternoon from 4pm. If you are able to assist with this please email the parish office so we can confirm the details closer to the time.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

Fr Andrew will be in Lourdes from Friday 22nd - Friday 29th July on the diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. On Tuesday 26th July at 7.45am (British Time) the Cardinal will celebrate Mass at the grotto of Lourdes and Fr Andrew will offer Mass for the intentions of all our parishes. If you wish, you may follow the pilgrimage on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/>

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

The diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 24th September. We will be organising a coach from the parishes with a cost of £28 per adult and £12 per child for the day with an 8am departure and returning around 7pm. Please contact the parish office to book your place and for further details.

RELIQS OF ST BERNADETTE PILGRIMAGE

We will be organising a coach to visit the relics of St Bernadette when they are in Stevenage on Monday 17th October. This will be an afternoon trip with a cost of £12 per adult. Please contact the parish office to book your place and for further details.

DOUGLAS KEEN RIP

The funeral of Douglas Keen will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Thursday 4th August. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

NEWSLETTER - there will be no newsletter during the month of August.

YOUTH CHOIR

In the autumn we will welcome to the parish Jaison Jeyaventhana as our new Youth Choir Director who will work with our young people aged 8-13. The Youth Choir will sing on a Sunday once a month at Our Lady's and once a month at St John's, Mill End. There will be a rehearsal for the choir one evening each week from 4.30-5.45pm. If your child is interested in joining the choir please could you contact the parish office and let us know what evenings your child will be free to rehearse each week. The rehearsal day will be set at the end of August based on these responses. If there are any adults willing to assist Jaison in supervising the children during the rehearsals then please also contact the parish office for more details.

BLESSING OF SCHOOL BAGS

On the first weekend of September at Mass we will be offering a blessing of school bags marking the start of the new academic year. Please do encourage families to come and join us with their new or trusted old school bags on this weekend to ask for the Lord's blessing on their studies.

CAR PARK

Due to Health and Safety concerns the car park at Our Lady's will be managed by Creative Car Parks from Monday 1st August. The camera and signage for this are now installed, with each building on the site having a touch pad for us to enter our car registrations when using the car park. This system will not be operated on Sundays or Monday - Saturday 9.15-10.15am to allow us to attend our scheduled Masses as usual without interruption. We encourage those parking in the car park outside those times Monday-Saturday to use the touch pads provided in the buildings so we can begin to get used to this new system. For further information about why this is necessary please do take a copy of the leaflet available in each of our churches. We thank you for your patience and understanding with this challenging but necessary change for our parishes.

SVP NATIONAL RAFFLE

SVP members will be selling tickets for the SVP National Raffle at all Masses for the next few weekends. The National Raffle is the biggest annual fundraising event held by the SVP, and 50% of the proceeds will go to your local Chess Valley SVP Group. Books are just £5 each; please support us in helping the people who need it most.

MILL END FOOD BANK

Chess Valley SVP will be collecting specific items needed by the food bank to supplement their food boxes. There are now collection boxes in each of the Church porches for these items. We will be monitoring what is needed by the Food Bank regularly and update this list accordingly both in the Parish newsletter and on the boxes. Items needed at present are; **dog food, deodorant, toilet rolls, washing up liquid, washing powder, shower gel, long life juice/squash, long life milk & tinned vegetables.**

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

A new season of Prayer and Life Workshops will take place on Monday evenings at the Parish Hall of Our Lady Help of Christians. These workshops offer us a possibility of a deeper relationship with Christ in prayer, learning different models of prayer over a period of 15 weeks. A taster session will take place on Monday 12th September at 5pm and 7pm. Do consider this life-changing and spiritually enriching workshop to help you grow in faith.

JUSTICE AND PEACE CONTACT

Each of our parishes are in need of a Parish Contact for the Westminster Justice and Peace Commission. This involves receiving communications relevant to peace and justice work from the diocese, and to encourage and support the involvement of the clergy and parishioners in prayer, action and reflection on peace and justice. If you would be interested in being the Parish Contact for this then please contact Fr Andrew.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

If you know someone who is sick and housebound in our parishes who would like to receive Holy Communion, please let the parish office know so that we can be in contact with them.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)

Our new family catechesis for all those with children aged 5-11 has now begun. The sessions are engaging, spirit-filled and fun, and they are for all the family. We celebrate Mass, enjoy a time of fellowship and refreshment before sharing catechesis and activities. As part of GIFT we will also hold Faith Formation for parents on one evening each month online (Zoom). These sessions are designed to help parents grow in their own faith, enabling them to lead their family on their journey of faith. We pray that GIFT will be a new way of approaching family catechesis across our parishes that will give all our families encouragement and strength in journeying together in faith. If your family would like to sign up for GIFT then please email the parish office (rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk) with the names of each of your family, the children's ages and a contact phone number. Further details will then be sent to you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.

Please note that there will be no formal application process for First Holy Communion classes as in the past. Applications will now be discerned via the GIFT catechesis in our parishes over the coming years.

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Have you, or someone you know, been thinking about becoming a catholic? Are you a baptised catholic but have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation and would now like to complete your initiation? If the answer to either of these questions is 'yes', please drop Fr Andrew an email and to find out what is involved and how our parishes can help you to take the next step.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

CALVARY CROSS UPDATE

The restoration of the Calvary Cross is taking longer than we had hoped due to the difficulty in finding the right contractors to carry out this specialist work, at a time when they are in high demand. It is hoped that this restoration will be completed in the next few months so we can once again have this important image at the heart of our parish.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We have one team of three people who have volunteered to lead Children's Liturgy at our 11am Mass on Sundays. To start with this will take place once a month starting on Sunday 18th September. If you would like to volunteer to assist with Children's Liturgy in a second group so that this can take place more regularly then please contact Fr Andrew.

COFFEE MORNING

There will be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 7th August. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations go to the Catholic Worker Farm.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

FAMILY MASS

As part of our Family Mass that takes place on the third Sunday of the month, we would be looking for teenagers in the parish to become readers. If anyone is interested in this ministry then please talk to Fr Andrew or Geraldine.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

TEA AND COFFEE will be served after Mass TODAY. Do please stay for a short while if you are able.

FAMILY PICNIC AT ST JOHN FISHER

We were very sorry to have had to cancel the planned Family Picnic last Sunday. However, with the extreme heat we were experiencing it was a health and safety risk as there was inadequate cover in the Church garden. We have now rescheduled the picnic for **Sunday 11th September at 12pm** and hope that many of you will be able to join us then. There will be a sign up sheet on the notice board in the entrance porch.

CARDINAL HUME CENTRE FOR THE HOMELESS

Mary's garage sale will stay open during August and finally close (probably for ever) on Wednesday 31st August. Many lovely items still available. **In addition to this** we will also be having **two Silent Auction Sundays** on 7th and 14th August in the lounge of St John Fisher ending after Mass on the 14th. If you have any queries please phone Mary on 284975. Thank you all.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

MARCH FOR LIFE SATURDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2022

10 million preborn children have legally died through abortion in the UK, leaving behind many deeply hurt women and men. There is no other issue that results in so much loss of life each year as abortion, and the subsequent ripple effects in marriages, relationships, wider families and society are incalculable. Each life lost is precious and that is why the theme for this year's March for Life is '10 million too many'. Mass will be celebrated at 11am at St George's Cathedral, Southwark SE1 7HY by Bishop John Sherrington. There will also be a pro-life family-friendly festival (LifeFest22) at the Emmanuel Centre, Westminster, from 10.30 – 1.30 consisting of; pro-life stalls, talks, children's sessions, entertainment and music, with an opportunity for Confession for anyone who wants this. The march itself sets off at 2pm outside the Emmanuel Centre and ends at 4.30pm in Parliament Square with final speeches.

UK VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST BERNADETTE

In September and October 2022 the relics of St Bernadette will be travelling across the UK for veneration and to help us focus on the message and mission of Lourdes. For more details and for the itinerary of the visit please go to www.stbernadette.org.uk